CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (currently amended) A composition for treating HCV infection in a human, wherein said composition is optimal for treating HCV infection in said human, comprising alpha-interferon or ~~a~~ pegylated alpha-interferon ~~derivative thereof~~ and an IMPDH inhibitor selected from the group consisting of VX-148 and VX-944, wherein said IMPDH inhibitor is present in said composition in an amount such that a ratio of Cavg/Cmin is between 1 to 10;

wherein:

Cavg is average plasma concentration produced by said IMPDH inhibitor in said human; and

Cmin is estimated trough concentration produced by said IMPDH inhibitor in said human.

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2. (currently amended) A method for treating HCV infection in a human, wherein said method is optimal for treating HCV infection in said human, comprising the step of administering to said human an optimal composition comprising alpha-interferon or ~~a~~ pegylated alpha-interferon ~~derivative thereof~~ and an IMPDH inhibitor selected from the group consisting of VX-148 and VX-944, wherein said optimal composition ~~contains~~ comprises said IMPDH inhibitor in an amount such that a ratio of Cavg/Cmin is between 1 to 10;

wherein:

Cavg is average plasma concentration produced by said IMPDH inhibitor in said human; and

Cmin is estimated trough concentration produced by said IMPDH inhibitor in said human.

3. (currently amended) A method for evaluating the suitability of a composition comprising an IMPDH inhibitor

and alpha-interferon or pegylated alpha-interferon for treating HCV infection in a human, said method comprising the steps of:

a. administering to said human said composition comprising said IMPDH inhibitor and said alpha-interferon or said pegylated alpha-interferon;

b. determining average plasma concentration produced by said IMPDH inhibitor in said human ("Cavg");

c. determining trough concentration produced by said IMPDH inhibitor in said human ("Cmin");

d. calculating a ratio of Cavg/Cmin;

e. deeming said composition to be suitable for treating HCV infection if said ratio is between 1 to 10.

4. (currently amended) A method of producing an optimal composition for treating HCV infection in a human, ~~wherein said optimal composition comprises alpha interferon or a derivative thereof and an optimal amount of an IMPDH inhibitor~~ said method comprising the steps of:

a. administering to a human a first composition comprising a first amount of ~~said IMPDH inhibitor~~ VX-148 or VX-944 and ~~said~~ alpha-interferon or pegylated alpha-interferon;

b. determining average plasma concentration produced by said first amount of said IMPDH inhibitor in said human ("Cavg");

c. determining trough concentration produced by said first amount of said IMPDH inhibitor in said human ("Cmin");

d. calculating a ratio of said Cavg to said Cmin;

e. modifying said first amount of said IMPDH inhibitor in said first composition to a second amount of said IMPDH

inhibitor such that ~~produce said optimal composition wherein~~ said ratio is between 1 to 10; and

f. combining said second amount of said IMPDH inhibitor with said alpha-interferon or said pegylated alpha-interferon to produce said optimal composition.

5. (previously amended) The method according to any of claims 2-4, wherein said ratio is between 1-8.

6. (original) The method according to claim 5, wherein said ratio is between 3-8.

7. (original) The method according to claim 6, wherein said ratio is between 5-8.

8-12. (canceled)